

After 1968: Contemporary Artists and the Civil Rights Legacy

Post Visit - Discussion or Essay Topics

- Nadine Robinson's art installation, *Coronation Theme: Organon*, (2008) is created with speakers as the central metaphor, because growing up in a Jamaican culture, speakers symbolized a kind of 'pied piper,' a calling together of the community.
Explain when, where, and how your community gathers. What are the circumstances for which you congregate?
- 1968 was the year that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated while in Memphis helping striking sanitation workers fight for improved work conditions and pay.
Who would you identify as contemporary leaders for equality and justice today? Support your choices.
- On November 4, 2008, Barack Obama was elected the 44th President of the United States of America with over 60% of young people between the ages of 18 through 25 voting for him.
Does this statistic substantiate that race is less of an issue today than it was in 1968? Provide detailed support as evidence for your response.
- In 1968, the year Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated the #1 song on the R & B charts was, *Say it Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud* by James Brown. The #2 song was *We're a Winner*, by the Impressions. Today, the #1 song on the Hip Hop charts is *Papers*, by Usher and the #2 song is *I Invented Sex*, by Trey Songz featuring Drake.
What conclusions can you draw from the music that young people were listening to then, compared to now?